IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A toner comprising: a resin binder,

a colorant, and

fine inorganic particles having a BET specific surface area of 30 m^2/g or less, wherein the fine inorganic particles are added as an external additive, wherein the toner has a storage modulus at 100°C using a 25 mm parallel plate of 7×10^4 Pa or less, a storage modulus at 60°C (G'_{60}) using a 7.9 mm parallel plate of from 3×10^8 to 1×10^9 Pa, and a storage modulus at 70°C (G'_{70}) using a 7.9 mm parallel plate of from 7×10^6 to 3×10^8 Pa and a G'_{60}/G'_{70} ratio of 2 or more and less than 30.

Claims 2-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Original): The toner according to claim 1, wherein the resin binder comprises from 50 to 100% by weight of a polyester.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Original): The toner according to claim 1, wherein the fine inorganic particles having a BET specific surface area of 30 m^2/g or less are silica.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The toner according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a silica having a BET specific surface area of 50 m^2/g or more is used together with the fine inorganic particles having a BET specific surface area of 30 m^2/g or less.

Claim 9 (Original): A two-component developer comprising the toner as defined in claim 1 and a carrier.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A method for forming fixed images, comprising the step of applying ~~the~~ a toner ~~as defined in claim 1~~ to a non-contact fixing apparatus wherein the fixing is carried out by applying light or heat energy to the toner in the non-contact fixing apparatus, wherein the toner comprises a resin binder, a colorant, and fine inorganic particles having a BET specific surface area of 30 m^2/g or less, wherein the fine inorganic particles are added as an external additive, wherein the toner has a storage modulus at 100°C using a 25 mm parallel plate of 7×10^4 Pa or less, a storage modulus at 60°C (G'_{60}) using a 7.9 mm parallel plate of from 3×10^8 to 1×10^9 Pa, a storage modulus at 70°C (G'_{70}) using a 7.9 mm parallel plate of from 7×10^6 to 3×10^8 Pa, and a G'_{60}/G'_{70} ratio of 2 or more and less than 30.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A method ~~for forming fixed images, comprising the step of applying the toner as defined in claim 1 to~~ according to claim 10 wherein the non-contact fixing apparatus is a high-speed apparatus with a linear speed of 400 mm/sec or more.

Claim 12 (New): A toner comprising:

a resin binder,

a colorant, and

fine inorganic particles having a BET specific surface area of 30 m^2/g or less, wherein the fine inorganic particles are added as an external additive, wherein the toner has a storage modulus at 100°C using a 25 mm parallel plate of 7×10^4 Pa or less, a storage modulus at 60°C using a 7.9 mm parallel plate of from 3×10^8 Pa to 1×10^9 Pa, and a storage modulus at

70°C using a 7.9 mm parallel plate of from 7 x 10^6 to 3 x 10^8 Pa, wherein a substance originated from the resin binder component having a molecular weight of 500 or less is contained in the toner in an amount of from 1 to 4% by area as the corresponding area in the chart of a gel-permeation chromatogram obtained from a RI (refractive index) detector.

Claim 13 (New): The toner according to claim 12, wherein the resin binder comprises from 50 to 100% by weight of a polyester.

Claim 14 (New): The toner according to claim 12, wherein the fine inorganic particles having a BET specific surface area of 30 m^2/g or less are silica.

Claim 15 (New): The toner according to claim 12, wherein a silica having a BET specific surface area of 50 m^2/g or more is used together with the fine inorganic particles having a BET specific surface area of 30 m^2/g or less.

Claim 16 (New): A two-component developer comprising the toner as defined in claim 12 and a carrier.

Claim 17 (New): A method for forming fixed images, comprising the step of applying a toner to a non-contact fixing apparatus wherein the fixing is carried out by applying light or heat energy to the toner in the non-contact fixing apparatus, wherein the toner comprises a resin binder, a colorant, and fine inorganic particles having a BET specific surface area of 30 m^2/g or less, wherein the fine inorganic particles are added as an external additive, wherein the toner has a storage modulus at 100°C using a 25 mm parallel plate of 7 x 10^4 Pa or less, a storage modulus at 60°C using a 7.9 mm parallel plate of from 3 x 10^8 Pa

to 1 x 10^9 Pa, and a storage modulus at 70°C using a 7.9 mm parallel plate of from 7 x 10^6 to 3 x 10^8 Pa, wherein a substance originated from the resin binder component having a molecular weight of 500 or less is contained in the toner in an amount of from 1 to 4% by area as the corresponding area in the chart of a gel-permeation chromatogram obtained from a RI (refractive index) detector.

Claim 18 (New): A method according to claim 17 wherein the non-contact fixing apparatus is a high-speed apparatus with a linear speed of 400 mm/sec or more.

DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENTS

Claim 1, 8, 10 and 11 are currently amended.

Claims 2-4 and 6 are canceled.

Claims 5, 7 and 9 are original.

Claims 12-18 are new.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1, 5 and 7-18 will be pending and under active consideration.

Support for the amendments to Claims 1 and 10 is found in Claims 1 and 10 as originally filed, on pages 2 and 6 of the specification, and in Table 1 of the specification.

The amendments to Claims 8 and 10 correct antecedent basis and clarify claim language.

New Claims 12-18 are supported by the original Claims and on pages 1, 2, 18 and 19 of the specification.

No new matter is added.